

Prayer is at the heart of who we are as Christians. It begins with God's initiative to build a loving relationship with us and develops as we open our hearts and lives to God in loving and attentive dialogue. There are as many styles of prayer as there are people.

At different times and in varying circumstances we will prefer one type over another. But there is *nothing*, not even sin itself - negligence, anger, or hatred- *that cannot become prayer*. For prayer is movement toward God. No matter what, God seeks us.

We learn early in our journey that there are five categories of prayer:

1. Praise
2. Thanksgiving
3. Confession
4. Supplication-requests for others
5. Petition-requests for ourselves

The Prayer Ministry at PVEM seeks to be responsive to our varying needs and styles of prayer. Our ministry aims to embrace those whose need is chronic or ongoing as well as those whose need is acute.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
As it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our
Daily bread,
And forgive us our debts
As we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the
Power, and the glory forever.
Amen

The Prayer Ministry at

Panther Valley Ecumenical
Ministry
(A multi-denominational Church)



1490 Route 517
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
(908) 852-5444
www.pvem.net

Rev. Dr. Mary Lou Howson
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily
Worship and Church School 10 a.m.
Fellowship and coffee hour afterward

We also wish to encourage prayers of praise and thanksgiving. The desire for confession is best addressed by contacting Rev. Howson directly.

We offer you the seven ways listed below to share in our prayer ministry.

Prayer List

Each week you may write the first name of someone for whom you want prayer on the weekly prayer list in the narthex. These names will be read in Sunday morning worship.

Prayer Cards

Prayer cards are available in the narthex, the pews and the church office. Complete the card, appropriately marking whether you wish your request to be given to the Prayer Chain, printed in the Sunday bulletin, or kept confidential. These cards will be placed on the altar for two weeks.

Bulletin Prayer List

You may complete a prayer card or call the office to include someone on the prayer list printed in the Sunday bulletin. Generally speaking, names will be listed for four consecutive

Sundays. This list focuses on acute circumstances rather than on chronic conditions. You may, however, request prayer for the same person more than once.

Prayer Chain

Several of our members participate in this confidential ministry of daily prayer. You may request prayer (or become a member) by calling Eloise Mial, or Rev. Howson. This group has no meetings. They simply lift people up in prayer.

Pray Together

All of us have times when we seek prayer support and fellowship. Each Sunday one or two people who are willing to pray with others will sit in the front of the church following morning worship. You are welcome to join them for 5-10 minutes of prayer and sharing.

Prayer Shawls

Several members and friends knit prayer shawls that may be given as gifts to those who are facing surgery or illness or who are struggling with grief, depression, etc. They can also be a wonderful gift of love for a new

mother. Please contact Eloise Mial if you know someone you would like to receive a prayer shawl. Recipients need not be members of PVEM.

Prayer Board

A section of the Worship Commission bulletin board in Fellowship Hall includes the names of those in chronic or ongoing need of prayer. For instance, members in nursing homes or overseas in the armed forces are listed on this board. Their names will also be published in "Happenings" each month.

We invite you to participate in this ministry in as many ways as you wish. As we pray for one another and with one another in all our joys and struggles, we will grow together in love and faith, and give glory to God.